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**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims, which are currently of record in the present application.

**Listing of Claims**

1. (Currently Amended) An endocervical curettings receiver comprising:  
an elongate handle having a longitudinal axis;  
collection means for collecting and retaining endocervical curettings, which collection means is attached to said handle[,] at a proximate end of said collection means; and  
wherein said collection means has concave, spoon shape with a truncated end at a distal end of said collection means, and a circumferential edge which is smooth to avoid cutting or scrapping of the cervical area.
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Original) An endocervical curettings receiver as claimed in Claim 1 wherein said receiver is fabricated from stainless steel.
5. (Original) An endocervical curettings receiver as claimed in Claim 1 wherein at least part of said receiver is fabricated from a plastic material that can be discarded after use.
6. (Currently Amended) A method for obtaining tissue from inside a living body, the method comprising the steps of:  
inserting a curette having sharp cutting edges inside a body,  
inserting ~~the~~ a collection means of an endocervical curettings receiver inside the body, and  
positioning said receiver adjacent to said curette, wherein said receiver comprises an elongate handle having a longitudinal axis; collection means for retaining said endocervical curettings, attached to

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said handle, at a proximate end of said collection means, wherein said collection means preferably has a concave, spoon shape, and has a truncated end at a distal end of said collection means; and said collection means has a circumferential edge which is smooth to avoid cutting or scrapping of the cervical area;

moving said inserted curette to cause one or more cutting edges on said curette to cut tissue from the body;

placing or collecting said cut tissue within ~~the~~ said collection means; and

withdrawing said curette and said collection means from the body.

7. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in Claim 6 wherein said ~~collector~~ collection means of said endocervical curettings receiver is at least twice the size (in volume), of a collector section formed as part of the curette.

8. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in Claim 7 wherein said ~~collector~~ collection means is between 5 and 20 times the size (in volume), of a collector section formed as part of the curette.